Depot Town Rag

FREE 100% RAG CONTENT

THURSDAY MEETINGS IN MAY:

DTA	20th	7:30 P.M.
Foundation	27th	8:00 P.M.

...in the Caboose

A PUBLICATION OF THE DEPOT TOWN ASSOCIATION, INC. The Caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

PUBLIC RADIO
STATION WEMU
and the
DEPOT TOWN ASSOCIATION
Presents

THE FOURTH ANNUAL FROG ISLAND TENT JAZZ FESTIVAL

Saturday, June 22
From noon until midnight
Rain or Shine!

The twelve-hour event will be staged under a spacious, airy, cool tent at Frog Island park on the banks of the Huron River in Ypsilanti's Historic Depot Town. Picnic baskets, blankets, lawn chairs and children (those under twelve admitted free) are definitely encouraged; however, pets, cans, bottles and brought-in alcohol are prohibited by law. There will be food booths, various soft drinks and juices. and a full cash bar.

This year's festival offers something for everyone with a big band, the latest modern sounds, Chicago blues, and the tropical stylings of Carribean music. Artists scheduled to appear:

12:30 - 1:30 P.M.
THE MAX MORDEN QUINTET
with Ned Mann, Jonathan Peretz, Robert Pipho, and Gary Schunk.

2:00 - 3:30 P.M.
THE EDDIE RUSS QUINTET
with singer Patti Richards

4:00 - 5:30 P.M.
The World Famous
TRINIDAD TRIPOLI STEEL BAND

6:00 - 7:30 P.M.
A Big Band Salute with
THE SUN MESSENGERS
and special guests trumpeter Russel Green, pianist Johnny Allen and saxophonist Lou Barnett.

8:00 - 9:30 P.M.
THE GERI ALLEN ENSEMBLE
with David McMurray, Vincent Bowens, Rayse Biggs, Bob Allison, Robert Hurst and Darrly Pierce.

10:00 - 11:30 P.M.
Jimmy Rogers'
CHICAGO BLUES ALL-STARS
with special guests Smokey Smothers and Wild Child Butler.

Ticket prices are $8 in advance and $10 the day of the event. They will be available in Ann Arbor at the Little Professor Bookstore, Schoolkids Records and PJ's Records; in Ypsilanti at the Huckleberry Party Store Tom's Party Store and most Depot Town businesses; also in the metro Detroit area.

DULZO IS A "PIONEER"

WEMU-FM program manager Jim Dulzo has been named recipient of the first annual "pioneer awards" by the Michigan Corporation for Public Broadcasting and was honored for his contributions to public broadcasting.

Dulzo, who has been at the Ypsilanti radio station affilated with Eastern Michigan University since 1980, was honored because of his work in producing jazz concerts in Depot Town. He has been artistic director since the "jazz tradition" was introduced to the neighborhood and developed the Frog Island Jazz Festival, the Heritage Festival Jazz Competition held in August, and the last four annual Winter Jazz Series held in the Depot Town Freighthouse.

DTA DETROIT TIGER GAME

Bus leaves Caboose 6 P.M., July 12
$17.50 Per Person

– DTA, The Caboose
400 Market Place
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

DEPOT TOWN EXPRESS

(A special "train of thought" in which we consolidate a whole lot of train stuff having to do with our neighborhood. Who knows? This could be a regular feature for this old railroad district's monthly publication.)

A REVIEW — DURAND'S RAILROAD DAYS

This year's collaboration with the Mad River railroaders from Bellevue, Ohio on May 5th was not a financial success (see minutes of May meeting), but those on board the Toledo-to-Durand all-day trip were much impressed with the Railroad Days Festival near Flint. Their only regret was that there were not more Depot Towners there to enjoy this spectacular train trip across the spring countryside.

Truly, it's an exciting ride, seeing the tracks from the other side. Downriver communities often afforded a glimpse of the Detroit River between steel mills and chemical plants. Upon entering Detroit, city and railroad police drove alongside the closed up train as it passed through what railroaders call the Ho Chi Minh Trail. It was obvious that the folks who owned the railroads didn't live too near the tracks. Most of Detroit's factories resembled dumps and bomb craters. By the time we reached Royal Oak the windows were open again and our passengers were hanging out the vestibule doors enjoying the middle **class** neighborhoods again. When we stopped in Birmingham we knew we were in **subeubia.** Pontiac, Waterford, Clarkston and then into wide open countryside. Holly, Fenton and finally to Durand.

The Railroad Days Festival was in it's tenth year and vacillated between real railroad lore (historic Grand Trunk Depot, Steam Train Maury, steam engines, a whole train made up of cabooses, a railroad museum) and carnival life ("Oh boy - rides!") It was a great contrast to Ypsilanti's Heritage Festival. Still, there were some exhibitors who were invited to show their authentic fare here in August.

By the return trip most of our riders had toured the entire twenty-one car train of coaches, baggage cars, lounges, sleeper – and an observation car at each end.

A video team from EMU has it all on tape and will soon be showing it in the Caboose. It may guarantee a sell-out for next year's trip.

THE MACKINAW LIMITED

SEPTEMBER 20, 21, 22

A RAIL ADVENTURE FROM BIRMINGHAM WITH STOPS FOR PASSENGERS IN DURAND AND BAY CITY ON THE WAY TO MACKINAW CITY AND MACKINAW ISLAND.

From the dawn of the golden age of northern Michigan railroading in the early 1880's until the middle of this century, bustling railroad stations between Detroit and Bay City teemed with passengers waiting to board excursion trains on a sojurn from busy metropolitan life to the sanctuaries of "Up North." Once aboard they discovered travel in a style of gracious relaxation, unknown since progress brought the construction of I-75.

Dinner then was properly served in the diner and passengers were permitted to stroll through the coaches for an unobstructed view of forests and lakes enhanced by the fresh scent of pine. Within eyeshot of the line's northern terminus, the Michigan Central and the Grand Rapids & Indiana railroads saw fit to build hotel accommodations on Mackinac Island to attract vacationers. Here, stately horse-drawn carriages continued the elegant amibiance to which the fortunate passengers had become accustomed.

Now, the Bluewater Michigan Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society invites you to rediscover Mackinac Island in the manner by which its pre-automobile age pleasures were meant to be reached, BY TRAIN! Made possible through the cooperation of the Grand Trunk Western and Detroit & Mackinac railroads, a special three-day excursion, THE MACKINAW LIMITED will depart Birmingham, Michgian on Friday, September 20th. The return trip will be Sunday, September 22nd. The train will consist of modern diesel-electric locomotives and streamlined coaches, diners and lounge cars.

The adult rail fare for the excursion including meals and ferry tickets to Mackinac Island is $169 from Birmingham. Children under age 12 accompanied by an adult may ride at a $25 discount from these prices. Passengers may make their own lodging arrangements or select the $90 Mackinac Island package or the $29 Mackinaw City package.

TO ORDER TICKETS: Bluewater Michigan Chapter, P.O. Box 296, Royal Oak, MI 48068-0296 Phone 676-1619.

FREIGHT HOUSE UP-DATE

The addition of equipment and coolers doesn't seem to have discouraged Freight House event promoters. The facility was rented out for non-Market events for 14 out of 21 weekends for the first 5 months of 1985. And the anticipated Kroger aisles have yet to appear.

The events have ranged from Dalton's popular American/European antique auctions, the DTA/WEMU Jazz Series, the 15th Congressional District Spring Art Fair and, most recently, the first of a monthly series of indoor/outdoor antique shows. The first antique show (first Sunday of each month) disappointingly attracted fewer dealers than needed and anticipated, but public response was good. Market manager Gary Urick reports that the promoter is optimistic that, in time, the antique show could grow into one of Depot Town's largest summer attractions.

Urick says all Freight House users seem satisfied with the facility and the public's response to their events. And everyone is planning to return next year, which should make for a busier-than-ever Freight House special event schedule. Hats off to the Market vendors for their co-operation in dismantling the Market end helping to facilitate this dual use of the facility.

RECYCLING CENTER UPDATE

Ypsi's recycling center is struggling to bounce back since reopening in Depot Town, but is collecting materials at less that ½ its previous pace at the Frog Island location.

YOU can help keep Ypsi's recycling center open. How? FIRST, by recyling your newspaper, glass, cans, and used motor oil at the center. Or you can just help spread the word that the center is open and operating in Depot Town. Or, you can gain experience in community organizational work, by volunteering as a board member.

Special help is needed to help make a recycling center summer raffle a successful effort to raise essential operating funds. Prizes from merchants and individuals, ticket sellers, and ticket buyers will be needed in the months ahead.

HISTORICAL MARKER PLACED

The Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation has awarded their marker to the building at 46-48-50 East Cross, owned by Tom, Bettie and Greg Dodd and which contains HON'S FLOWERS, RIVER ART WORKS and BIG BOB'S MAGAZINE EMPORIUM.

The Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation, founded in 1974, is dedicated to the idea that one of Ypsilanti's greatest resources is its wealth of historic architecture. Each year the Foundation recognizes some of our architecturally significant buildings and thanks those responsible for their upkeep.

Other designated buildings in Depot Town include Shankwiler's ARTRAIN BUILDING, AUBREE'S SALOON and the DEPOT EXCHANGE.

The markers are installed by and remain the property of the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation and will remain on the buildings at the discretion of the Foundation.

Dear Rag,

We who work, live, and hang-out in Depot Town like to think that it's a pretty special place. We are captured by the unique and spirited on by the unusual. Something has been occurring here lately that seems to be the evolution that comes from familiarity amongst people – they begin to form their own language and their own peculiarities of communication.

Without too much effort we could have attended the Depot TOWNE Antiques Show that was held at the Freight House which is located at Cross and River STEETS.

We could visit the Golden Age Showcase (they catch on fast, being the new kid on the block) and try on some of their handmade CLOTHS. I assume that's wearing apparel similar to the COTHING that was shown at the Mother's Day Craft Fair on May 4th, held at the new familiar Freight House.

If you're looking for unusual mealtime fare, you could try the Old Town's well known roast-beef AU JUICE.

And last, but not least, there is the total make-over you can get this summer at Jacqueline's Boutique. You can make an APPIONTMENT to have a color ANALYSE and be shown how to ACCESORISE with jewelry.

I think it's time we put to rest the old image of Depot Town (motorcycle gangs, etc.) and concentrate on our lmore recent accomplishments. Creating our own colloquialisms means we are finally pulling it together.

Yores trulie,
The Troll

CONGRESS SAVES THE THE TRAINS:

The White House planned to shut down Amtrak – America's passenger train company – on October 1, but our politicos wouldn't let them get away with it. All Amtrak trains, including the ones which pass through Depot Town on their way from Detroit to Chicago, would have been discontinued on that date, making the United States the only nation in the industrialized world without rail travel.

Think what the consequences might have been:

*500 U.S. cities would have lost safe, energy-efficient trains. (25 of these have no other public transportation, while another 146 have only bus or air, but not both).

*20 million passengers annually would have been inconvenienced or stranded, including many whose medical conditions prohibit them from flying. Amtrak is the 6th-largest transportation company in the U.S.

*More than $4 billion invested over the past decade in locomotives, cars, stations, and other facilities, would have been "down the drain."

Amtrak is paying more of its way than ever before, and only accounts for 2.4% of the federal transportation budget in 1985. While killing Amtrak, the White House plans to spend $15.2 billion on highways next year – a 2% increase – and to continue spending over $5 billion on air transportation.

But don't think this emergency saving measure is permanent. Write to your Congressman and Representative. We hope to keep waving at those trains – even if they don't stop.

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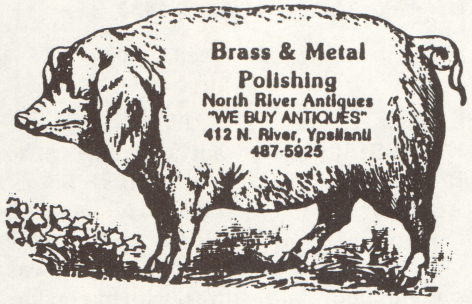
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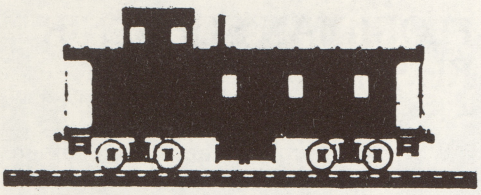
FROG ISLAND JAZZ
JUNE 22ND



D.T.A. 16 May 1985

The minutes of the April meeting were corrected to read "an 88% return on the Jazz investment." The treasury holds $5411.00, with $2542.81 in the General Fund, $763.13 in Special Events, $755.48 in the Rag Account and $1350.00 in the Jazz Account. The Billboard Account is paid in full with a credit of $165.00.

RAG REPORT: Eleven advertisers are behind n their payments. Two will definitely not continue their ad. Should we continue "squibs" for non-sponsoring businesses? We will discuss and decide at the June meeting.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS: Jerry Meadows announced a new wood-stripping business on River Street. The Depot Exchange rehab project continues. A tour of the new apartments being managed by Meadows above Pronto Pizza will be conducted after the meeting. Private parking behind the Follett House is being enforced and improperly parked cars have been towed.

JAZZ: The Ark has decided not to produce a back-up concert for Frog Island. The poster was done by Eastern's promotions peoples City electicity is still not in place but is promised for June 22.

TIGER BASEBALL: Tickets for the July 12 game were not suitable and were rejected. Barbara Lohr will try to get better seats on a week night. Watch for announcements of date, price and time of charter bus to a July Tiger baseball game.

BOOMER DAYS celebration is set for July 19, 20, 21 with the King and Queen Coronation, the Fash Bash costume contest, Bum's night out on Friday, the Bums' Rush on Saturday with the possible inclusion of Boys and Girls Club events, kidsart, an alcohol education event, a talent show and the Hobo Jungle overnight camp out. Bonnie Rosen-Fine is in charge of the event and seeks project chairs.

Other ideas for Boomer Days included a Milligan Stew Cook-off, a district-wide "garage sale", scavenger hunt, wine and cheese tasting, a carp contest and the "hobo disco."

Bob Cartright, of the SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN TRAVEL AND TOURIST agency proposed Depot Town's inclusion in their publications, magazine, brochures, etc. Their promotions are distributed to Chambers of Commerce, travel bureaus and State tourist centers. No decision was made.

TRAIN TRIP to Dukrand on May 5th did not sell well and lost $1300. STERNWHEEL STEAMBOAT TRIP on May 26 is all ready more than half sold out and should do better.

A HERITAGE FESTIVAL FLOAT featuring an antique railroad hand car being pumped by locals with theme-related word balloons was proposed by John Waite. Decision on financing at June meeting.

A TRAIN LANTERN sales project was proposed by Marybelle Suczek with a sample from the Williams Sonoma company at 3 for $10. Nobody liked the idea very much.

CITY BODY's garage is now operating up to code and accoring to local ordinances.

STEAM LAUNCH MEET at Woodyard's Landing, Texas, Ohio, July 12, 13, 14. DTA's Jim Monahagn is in charge of the event.

QUARTERLY DTA MEETING is Sunday, June 30. Watch for more details in Pronto Pizza's window.

Planners hope to emphasize involvement, futuring, self-assessment, program evaluation and fun.

BEST YET AWARD goes to all the "green thumbs" who have planted the neighborhood flower beds and especially to North River Antiques for their new rose bushes.

THE GOLDEN GOOSE to the editor – who took nine years to screw up – and then lost money on a "fund-raiser."

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 P.M.

ASSOCIATIONS STUDIED

The Michigan State University Center for Urban Affairs has just released a directory of Michigan Neighborhood Associations which includes 302 groups representing 251 neighborhood associations, 41 condominium associations and 10 neighborhood coalitions. The four Ypsilanti groups included in the directory are the Central Business District, the Historic East Side Association, the Southside Historic Neighborhood Association and the Depot Town Association.

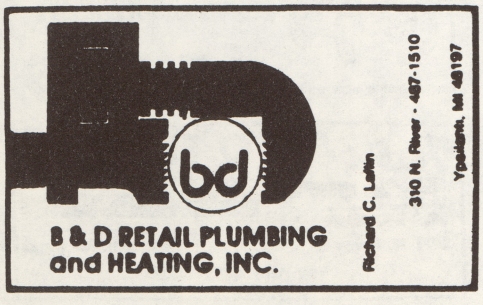
This directory represents a first step towards a greater understanding of the important role(s) of neighborhood associations in communities throughout the state. In the near future, the Neighborhood Association ProjectTeam will be requesting added assistance by completing a questionnaire to assist in more fully understanding Michigan's neighborhood movements.

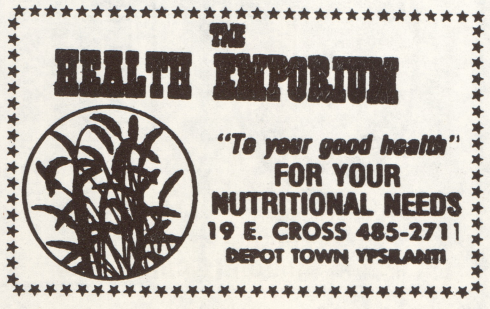
The study asked officers of such groups around the state to identify the activities of their groups. The following chart prioritizes those responses (from most to least listed) and we have recorded the local groups' responses for comparison:

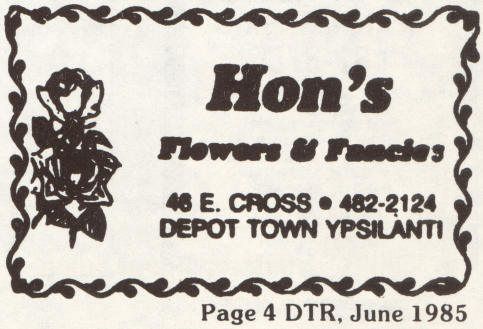
	DTA	CBC	HESA	SHNA
Membership:	25	140	NA	16
1. Beautification	*	*	*	
2. Crime	*	*		
3. Improving City Services	*	*		
4. Newsletters	*	*	*	*
5. Social Functions	*	*	*	*
6. Influencing Govt. Policy	*	*		*
7. Zoning	*			
8. Housing	*		*	
9. Conflict Resolution	*	*	*	
10. Education				*
11. Economic Development	*	*		
12. Historic Preservation	*	*	*	*
13. Food & Nutrition	*			
14. Health	*			
15. Politics		*		

THE DIRECTORY OF MICHIGAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

is on file with the DTA secretary and copies are available at $1.50 each from: The Neighborhood Association Project Center for Urban Affairs W104 Owen Graduate Hall Michigan State University East Lansing, MI 48824.







A TRIBUTE TO THE CABOOSE:
From Necessity to Extinction

The caboose has, since perhaps the 1850's, served as office, lookout post, dining room, den and dormitory for the conductor, rear brakeman and flagman of the freight train.

Early cabooses were mere huts built on flat cars to provide crude shelter for the men whose job it was to set and release by hand the brakes on the cars toward the rear of the train. The head-end brakeman found his shelter in the locomotive cab or on some lines, in a "doghouse" mounted on the tender. Some railroads converted boxcars into side-entry cabooses by cutting a few windows and installing pot-belied stoves.

Chicago and north Western conductor T.B. Watson is credited with giving birth to the idea for the cupola, that enclosed balcony from which crewmen can monitor their train. He was temporaily assigned to a converted boxcar that had a large round hole in the roof. Using a chair or packing case, Watson is said to have polked his head and shoulders through the roof, from which vantage point he doffed his hat to folks along the way. But he also discovered that he could see his train, all the way to the locomotive. The story has it that Watson convinced the railroad's master mechanic to enclose the hole with wood and glass and to build a platform inside the car where he could sit more comfortably.

For many years every freight conductor was assigned his own caboose, which he painted, pampered and commanded in his own style. His brakeman and flagman shared in the responsibility for "keeping house." Bunks provided sleeping space at the far end of long trips.

Even in relatively recent times there have been several varieties of railroad caboose, ranging from four-wheeled "bobbers" to cars with bay windows and passenger car suspension systems to assure the best possible ride for the "captain" of the train.

Two-way radios have eased communication of important information between the locomotive crew and the caboose crew. Air brake pressure problems showing on the caboose gauge are quickly reported to the engineer so that he can take appropriate action. Locomotive and caboose crews can confer before seeking special orders from the train dispatcher.

But modern technology which added value to the caboose now is contributing to its demise. It's possible to install a "black box" on the rear of the last frieght-hauling car on the train that will monitor air pressure and other conditions and transmit the information to the digital readout in the locomotive cab. A battery-operated flashing light on the box serves the same funtion as the caboose marker lamps that once were fueled by kerosene.

As they seek economies, railroads are discovering that the expenses of buying, maintaining and switching cabooses are tempting targets. The operating unions have agreed to allow some trains on some lines to move with a black box, instead of a caboose, bringing up the rear. Hundreds of cabooses have been retired to parks, museums and scrap yards by the railroads. Current prospects are that only trains of great length or unusual cargos will carry the caboose into the future. Meantime, we'll probably see many more of these antiques parked in neighborhoods like Depot Town and used for completely different tasks than before.

FLORIDIAN SOUVENIR KITSCH
– Steve's Gross Exhibit

When you scratch the surface of an antique DEALER you can usually find a COLLECTOR. They try to let on that they are not of such an acquisitive nature and often show a smug smile of superiority when finalizing a sale. Still when you know them long enough, they'll tip their hand and reveal that they are just like their clients. But they collect weird stuff and often don't like to talk about it in public or show it. Little wonder.

One of our block's hustlers has a collection of "Tramp Art" which was exhibited at Depot Town's first Boomer Days. This stuff is so ugly it could make a sensitive art teacher go blind – but the exhibit in the window of Depot Exchange Antiques this month exceeded the limits of good taste.

Kitsch. That's what Steve Gross's exhibit is. His Floridian Souvenirs include ash trays, knick knacks and cute, little night lights made of sea shells with tiny pink flamingos fastened to them. They contain a Christmas tree-sized light bulb and glow like the sweaty sunset over a Miami Beach freeway exit.

What about purses, Steve? Are you ready to expand your collection? We know some retirees in that state who have some nice, big basket-sized purses with shells sea weed and fish net glued to one side. The window could be filled up with postcards, hotel menus and Sunshine State match-book covers. All this, we suspect, would pale by comparison to Depot Exchange's current display.

RIVER ARTWORKS
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• PROFESSIONALS WITH ALL GRAPHICS NEEDLECRAFT FRAMING OF OBJECTS ARCHIVAL FRAMING
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40 E. CROSS YPSILANTI 483-8300

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and everything nice
Clothing Gifts
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Ypsilanti, MI 48197
483-2248

Ted's AUTO ELECTRIC
307 N. River St. Ypsilanti, Michigan
Phone 483-1238

Hansen's
STANDARD PRINTING
"Historic Depot Town"
483-0339

"UP TO STANDARD" will soon be the slogan for Depot Towners trying to keep up with the renovation and rehabiliation at Hansen's Standard Printing. No sooner did their back steps get replaced than they began replacing the center front door to their second floor ballroom. It's the grandest entrace on the block complete with elegant, slim sidelights to show off the broad stairway and an arched transom light (window) light above. The transom arch carefully replicates the shape found in so many windows on the block – and in the ballustrade arches in the new Cross Street Bridge.

The replacement door matches those on the print shop and the former Eagles; Hall on either side.

It's an extensive project that just keeps going on and on and on.

a non-profit business serving depot town

312 N. RIVER 483-1520

open: Sun. 12 - 4 Mon. - Fri. 10 - 7 Sat. 9 - 6

CO-OP'S "COOKING ENCOUNTERS" MOVING

Beginning in June, Depot Town's Ypsi Food Co-op is moving its popular "Cooking Encounters" food programs to the Farmers' Market. The Co-op hopes to contribute to the Markets' educational services, as well as to reach out to more of the Ypsilanti community.

"Cooking Encounters" offers information, tips, and recipes for cooking with and enjoying whole/natural goods in a variety of ways. A tentative schedule of presentations includes:

*SUMMER "WHOLE GRAIN SALADS June 15th

*TASTY TOFU (bean curd) DIPS July 20th

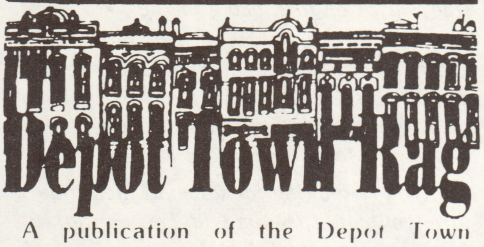
*HOW TO MAKE TOFU AT HOME August 17th

The encounters will be staffed by Co-op volunteers, well experienced in whole foods cookery. The display/demonstrations will run from 9 A.M. to 12 Noon in the Market Freight House.

RAGTIME

"Seems like old times"

DOWN IN DEPOT TOWN



A publication of the Depot Town Association, Inc., a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation dedicated to preserving the unique character of the neighborhood and to the enhancement of its business climate.

Gary McKeever, president

(DTA: The Caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, MI 48197)

Annual dues:

Associate member	$ 10
Regular member	$ 25
Sustaining member	$100

BIG BOB'S
MAGAZINE AND
FANTASY EMPORIUM

50 East Cross
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

(313) 485-4930

Monday - Wednesday 11-6
Friday 11-7, Saturday 11-6, Sunday 10-2
CLOSED THURSDAY'S

BROWSERS are always welcome at Big Bob's, even if it is in the FIRST floor. Actually, it was GRAZERS who fed from the ground. BROWSERS ate from the taller branches of trees. Perhaps it was second floor bookstores which encouraged BROWSING. Note Big Bob's new hours. Stop in and see the most amazing collection of paper goods in the area.

RAGTIME space such as this is dedicated to the "little news" on the block for both our advertisers and our friends. The fact that you're reading it proves that others will too. If you haven't gotten your short copy into the Caboose by the third Thursday, you're missing an excellent opportunity to inform people who are interested in Depot Town and in your business.

Stop By!

Ypsilanti's Farmers' Market
in historic Depot Town

Weds & Sat 8 - 2

- *Fresh Picked Strawberries*
- *Rhubarb, Leaf Lettuce, Green Onions*
- *Early Peas, Carrots, Potatoes*

GROWING FOR YOU

The season of fresh-grown fruits and vegetables is upon us again! And the Ypsi Farmers; Market, opening its 1985 summer season over in the Freight House and the Market Square, is 'GROWING FOR YOU' in more ways than one.

Of course, there's the usual array of fresh-grown fruits and vegetables, grown and sold direct by family farmers and master gardeners in our region. Early and bountiful harvest are prediced, aided by our unseasonably warm spring. And it's the first full season for the poultry shop and donut machine!

Then there's the "growing" number of Market services and activities to be offered over the next year. A new "Food Infor Center" will provide take-home 'food facts sheets" on fruits, vegetables and other Michigan food items. Nutritional information, recipes, and a brief history of the vegetable are included on each sheet. A photo display of Ypsilanti gardens/gardeners will be part of the info center, as well.

A number of live programs, workshops and demonstrations will be scheduled throughout the year. Included will be the Ypsi Food Co-op's "Cooking Encounters" food demonstrations scheduled for the third Saturday of each month.

Special Heritage Festival activities will conicide with the market in late August, with this year's Farmers' Market Fall Fair scheduled for October 5th. This year's growing fair will feature a "transplanted" salute to Michigan's apples with more displays, activities and down-home fun offered as part of the celebration.

And then there's the new coffee shop menu items and decor, larger flower gardens, colorful banners, corn roast and

But while the market is "Growing For You", some things will always stay the same. The market will be that same friendly, festive place to watch trains, to meet friends, and to purchase fresh, local grown fruits and vegetables (and much more!) from the country persons who grow them.